

FROM WASHINGTON.  
OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.  
House Proceedings on Saturday.  
THE STAMPED ENVELOPE QUESTION.  
A DAY OF SPEECH-MAKING.

Remarks of Messrs. Cook, Lawrence of Ohio, and Cullom.

FENIAN MEETING.  
An Appeal to the President.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 1866.

THE RICHMOND EXAMINER AGAIN.  
The statement is telegraphed here direct from Richmond that H. R. Pollard has received permission from the Secretary of War to resume the publication of the *Richmond Examiner*. He advertised its resumption on Wednesday, Gen. Terry has received no orders or information upon the subject. The rumor given here yesterday that President Johnson had given Pollard assurance that the order should be revoked, which is probably the truthful statement. It has been authoritatively ascertained tonight that the President has promised that *The Examiner* may be restored.

THE NATIONAL DEBT, AND HOW TO PAY IT.

The statement originally made by the Controller of the Currency showing the ease with which the national debt may be paid by a tax of 10 cents per pound on all cotton raised in the United States, is attracting much attention. It is shown that to enjoy a monopoly of cotton raising, and in no other way can a sinking fund be so easily raised. Others favor a Constitutional amendment reversing the Constitutional provision prohibiting export taxation. Senator Dixon introduced a proposition for such an amendment at the last session, which failed. He will introduce a similar proposition again this session.

GEN. LEE.

Gen. Robert Lee was before the Committee of Fifteen yesterday, to give his testimony on some points connected with the present condition of things in the Rebel States. He looks hearty and robust, and seems to enjoy good health. He stops at the Metropolitan Hotel.

SPEECH-MAKING IN THE HOUSE.

The Senate was not in session yesterday, it being speech-making day. Mr. Cooke of Illinois, Mr. Lawrence of Ohio, and Mr. Cullom of Illinois, submitted to the House their views on the Reconstruction question. All three declared themselves in favor of demanding substantial guarantees from the Rebel States before they should be readmitted, and all three sustained the theories they advocated with stories and well arranged arguments. The number of Representatives present was small, but the speeches made a very favorable impression.

TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

PREACHING IN THE CAPITOL.  
The second of the series of jubilee sermons, prepared by distinguished divines of the different Christian denominations, was today delivered by the Rev. Dr. William Adams of New-York, at the Capitol, on the subject of the "Advantages of a Written Revelation."

FENIANS IN WASHINGTON.

A large and enthusiastic Fenian meeting was held last night and addressed by George Francis Train, Major Terry, R. Donnan Kilian, and the Hon. Messrs. Rogers of New-Jersey and Hogan of Missouri. Letters were read from Mr. Boyle and Capt. McNeill, dated at the jail in which they were confined on charges of conspiracy against Her Majesty's Government, from which it appears that United States Consul Lumsden and Capt. McNeill had served in the Rebel army and subsequently took the amnesty oath. The meeting passed resolutions declaring the replies of these functionaries insulting to the prisoners and ignoring all the rights they had been entitled to as citizens of the United States, and also requesting the President to insure a proper representation of American opinion and principles at the court of St. James and the different consulates throughout the world. A committee was appointed to communicate these resolutions to the President. Resolutions were also passed denouncing the action of the British Government in consenting to the extradition of the Fenians, and the Fenians who went upon private business to Europe, and who had committed no overt act against any country. These resolutions formed part of the basis of animated and earnest speeches, in the course of the evening a resolution was adopted, asking that the Fenian doctrine was a struggle on American nationality.

CURRENCY ISSUES.

During last week \$300,000 in fractional currency were issued to the National Banks, and \$50,000 to Assistant Treasurers and others. There is still a large amount of fractional currency in circulation. The Federal Reserve Bank is instructed to print \$100 daily of all denominations until further orders.

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.

During the last week several interesting reports were received from agents of the Freedmen's Bureau in different parts of the South regarding the freedmen and the former masters. It was stated that, notwithstanding the great opposition to the system of paid labor, the condition of affairs is very encouraging.

MEETING OF RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE.

The Case of Tennessee—Runners of a Presidential Movement on the Subject—The Congressional Delegation—Arguments For and Against Admission—Their Merits Considered.

From Our Special Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17, 1866.

The Committee of Fifteen had a meeting today for the purpose of taking the Tennessee case into consideration. No decision was, however, arrived at, and the Committee will again meet on Monday. It is thought probable that the Committee will soon make a report, at not in the shape of a bill, providing for the immediate readmission of Tennessee. There has been a sort of artificial excitement about this matter which is not beginning to subside. Somebody—probably somebody in intimate relations with the White House—started the rumor that the Tennessee question would be brought upon the House at an early day, that it would be taken out of the hands of the Committee of Fifteen, and that the unconditional readmission of that State would be voted by a large majority of the House. It was reported that Speaker Colfax was industriously canvassing the House to bring about such a result.

A gentleman of great reputation, and for some time a very intimate relations with the President, declared today that the Tennessee question was a high public functionary, that the President felt sure of being able to procure the early and unconditional readmission of the Rebel States; that a majority in the House, with the Speaker at its head, was in favor of trying Tennessee first, and that afterward there would be no difficulty as to the rest. A general impression seemed to prevail that, by some bold and unexpected movement in the House, the admission of Tennessee was to be forced through, and thus the guaranty policy of the Republican majority in Congress completely and forever overthrown.

As to Tennessee, there is no doubt, an almost universal feeling in favor of the individuals sent by the people of that State to represent them in Congress. The advocates of their admission are in the majority, and they are popular. And this feeling of sympathy for the individual representatives predisposes many to look upon Tennessee as an exceptional case, to be kept apart from the rest of the Rebel States, and to be treated in a special manner. The Tennessee question is a considerable number of Union soldiers during the war. A Tennessee organized a loyal State Government before the surrender of the Rebel armies. A Tennessee ratified the Constitutional Amendment before the surrender. A Tennessee is the home of President Johnson. Such were the arguments first brought forward by Speaker Colfax, and afterward repeated by many others.

The opponents of the immediate and unconditional

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re-admission of Tennessee reply that, Union soldiers were furnished by other Rebel States also; that if Tennessee is entitled to immediate readmission by having established a Union Government and ratified the Constitutional Amendment before the surrender, so Louisiana and Mississippi are also entitled to the same. It is pointed out that although Tennessee is indeed the home of President Johnson, Mr. Johnson would never have been elected Vice-President if it had not been for the fact that he was a member of the Tennessee Legislature, and that he would have voted his own State into the White House; and at the present moment Mr. Johnson could not be elected Governor of that State on a full vote. It is argued, in addition to this, that the account given of the condition of things in Tennessee by the Governor of that State as well as the Union Central Committee, is such as to show how small a share the Union element would have in the administration of that State. It is pointed out that the Tennessee Legislature, if it were to be re-elected, would have to maintain its official ascendancy over the people of Tennessee, and that they would have an influence for good behavior. But above all, it is asked, if Tennessee be readmitted, unconditionally, without having given any further guarantee, on what theory in the world are you going to justify the keeping out of the other Rebel States? The ground of this principle once abandoned, on what basis are you going to rest your policy? What common ground of action will you have, if your action is to be governed only by arbitrary and capricious considerations, never to be again a firm footing again?

Such are the two principal objections to the immediate readmission of Tennessee, and the most ardent advocates of this scheme cannot say that they have no answer to them. The ground of a common principle once abandoned, the majority will hopelessly founder about in the mazes of arbitrary theories and special pleading; that the majority, without a fixed, intelligible, and consistent policy, will be completely at sea. It is pointed out, and that Tennessee, with all her good and plausible qualities, will prove the Trojan horse, carrying all the rebellion concealed in its belly. It is not difficult to understand why, under such circumstances, the President should be so much inclined to favor of springing the question upon Congress, and it is stated that he is using his patronage for that purpose, in some cases not without effect. It would be more difficult to understand why some prominent members of the House should stand by him, and why some of them should have better reason to give for it than those above stated, had they not been made to believe that "the people" imperatively demanded it. In this respect the failure in the Platform Committee of the Republican Party to secure the readmission of Tennessee, serves to indicate the true current of popular sentiment. If the Republicans of this Congress keep in mind that the people of the loyal States would not be so easily deceived, and that they would never be tempted to wantonly give up the only ground upon which they can secure what the people demand.

XXXIXTH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Feb. 17, 1866.

A DAY OF SPEECH-MAKING.

This day was devoted to speech-making. Mr. Ketchum, of New-York, presented a memorial from the Manufacturers and Dealers, of Dutchess and Columbia Counties, N. Y., against the passage of the bill to authorize the Postmaster-General to refer the value of the postage stamps to the Post-Office Department. Mr. Cooke and every individual officer of each State had rights in every State, derived through the Constitution of the United States. The bill would take such State out of the Union. State Governments are political corporations, and the people controlling the political action of a State, with these exercising the functions of a State Government, may choose to have a State which is not a State Government, and there is no State Government within the Union under the Constitution. The practical question is, when the relations between a State and the Union have been severed, and the State is to be re-Union, what is to be the basis of the new Union? He contended that it could not be by the sole action of the State itself, nor by the sole action of the President, but it must be by the action of the Congress, and that the Congress should be the basis of the new Union.

THE SOUTH-WEST.

NEW ORLEANS, Saturday, Feb. 17, 1866.

STEAMBOAT COLLISION—Gov. Patten's Proclamation.

The steamer Blue Wing collided with the gunboat Cowpat at Bogor, and the former was sunk. No lives were lost.

GOV. PATTEN OF ALABAMA.

Gov. Patten of Alabama has proclaimed amnesty and pardon to all persons liable to be indicted or prosecuted for offenses committed during the late rebellion, except in cases of rape and murder, except between the commencing of hostilities and the restoration of civil government.

ARRIVED, STEAMERS R. E. CUYLER AND MONTGOMERY.

From New-York, Concordia from Boston, and the New-York, Concordia from Boston, for New-York; Cassandra and Kensington, for Boston.

FIGHT BETWEEN CANALES AND CORTINAS.

Monterey not captured by Escobedo.

TWO MURDERS BELOW BROWNSVILLE.

NEW ORLEANS, Saturday, Feb. 17, 1866.

The Times's Brownsville letter reports a fight between Canales and Cortinas, in which the latter was worsted.

MURDER AND ROBBERY ARE THE ORDER OF THE DAY ON THE RIO GRANDE.

Monterey not captured by Escobedo.

THE AMERICAN EMPIRE.

THE IMPERIAL CITY OF MEXICO.

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NEW-YORK, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1866.

LATEST FROM THE RIO GRANDE.

The Bagdad Investigation—Report of the Commission—The Blame Thrown on Crawford & Co.—Distinguished Arrival at Matamoros—Gen. Cortinas Answers to a Charge of Outrage on United States Soil—Farwell Order of Gen. Weitzel—Panic Among the Liberals—Their Artillery Seized—Capt. Reed and Sinclair in Jail—Monterey Taken by Escobedo—Negrete Abandons Juarez.

From Our Special Correspondent.

NEW ORLEANS, Friday, Feb. 9, 1866.

The United States steamer St. Marys arrived yesterday from Brazos Santiago, with Gens. Weitzel, Smith and Clark as passengers. The above named Generals were mustered out of service on the 1st inst.

The following is a brief synopsis of the proceedings of a Military Commission, convened at Brazos Santiago, Texas, by order of Major Gen. G. Weitzel, Commandant of the District of the Rio Grande. The Commission was composed of the following named officers: Brevet Major Gen. W. T. Clark, Commanding Third Division 25th Army Corps; Col. R. M. Hall, 35th U. S. Colored Troops; Major Edward P. Wilson, 2d U. S. Colored Cavalry; Capt. Jesse M. Lee, 25th U. S. Colored Troops; and A. A. J. G. Third Division Twenty-fifth Army Corps.

Among the above named officers are well known for their integrity of character, and their standing as officers and gentlemen is in every respect unimpeachable.

We have, therefore, every reason to believe that they gave the testimony and evidence before them all with the utmost care and impartiality.

In pursuance of the order, the Commission met on the 25th ult., and were in session seven days, ending on the 31st ult., and after an examination of some 12 witnesses, and intelligent and careful investigation of the affair, reported as follows, viz:

First: That they have employed every means in their power to procure the presence of persons acquainted with the case before them for investigation, sending notices for that purpose to Clarksville, Brownsville, White Texas, and Bagdad, Mexico.

Second: That the presence of but two residents of Mexico has been secured, notwithstanding every encouragement and facility have been offered to all parties interested to give their testimony.

Third: That the attack on Bagdad, Mexico, was inaugurated and carried out by a R. J. Crawford, representing himself as a Major-General in the Liberal service; and that the power and authority of the United States Government, consisting of one Reed, styling himself Col. Reed of the Liberal Army of Mexico, and also representing himself to be Lieut. Col. of the 40th U. S. C. T., one Sears, alias Major Sears; one Lamberton, one of the Liberal army, and one of the United States troops, were induced by hope of reward to follow these men in this enterprise. That several soldiers of United States troops, whose names the commission have been unable to learn, induced by the parties above named, to follow them, and participated in the capture of the place, that these men were at the time in the pay and under the control of Reed, Sears and parties above mentioned, that these soldiers were absent without the knowledge or consent of any officer of the United States Army, and that the power of those in authority was used to prevent the soldiers from engaging in the affair.

Fourth: That every precaution within the power of the Government was used to prevent the carrying out of any enterprise of the kind, and that every means was used to prevent the carrying out of the enterprise, and that all goods, wares or merchandise were immediately seized by the Custom House officers, with the help of the military authorities; that all property illegally brought to this side by any person was placed under guard, and that the officers of the United States Government did not only discontinue and disapprove of any employment of troops for the purpose of making an assault on Bagdad, but they also disapproved of the carrying out of the enterprise, and that the United States Government was not able to implicate any officer of the United States Government in the affair.

Sixth: That the revenue officer showed the greatest diligence in his endeavor to protect the revenue, and that the assistance of the military authorities, the strictest neutrality.

Seventh: That the presence of the United States troops in Bagdad, after the capture by these unauthorized parties, also prevented the carrying out of the enterprise, and that the United States Government was not able to implicate any officer of the United States Government in the affair.

Eighth: That upon the urgent request of the proper authorities of the Republic of Mexico, United States troops were sent to Bagdad to restore tranquility, preserve order, and prevent outrage, and that the United States Government was in no other manner concerned in affairs at that place.

MOVING OUT.

The 15th United States Colored Troops, whose master out was ordered to be suspended on account of the alleged implication of some of the officers and men in the Bagdad affair, have received orders to go on to Brownsville, and to be mustered out of service, and the Commission which recently investigated the affair, started for Clarksville in company with Judge Dye of Brownsville on business for the house. About to clock p. m., when about half way, Judge Dye being in a carriage, Mr. Barnhart, becoming impatient at the slow gait of the judge, started off on foot, and went to a house and shot the distance, which is the last that has been seen or heard of him. He was armed with only a revolver. He was undoubtedly waylaid and murdered. The house by whom he was employed had used every exertion and expended money freely in the search for him, but he has been found yet.

On Tuesday afternoon, the 30th ult., a young man, Mr. Barnhart, employed as book-keeper by the well and widely-known firm of Messrs. Droge, Ostling & Co., of Matamoros, came over to Brownsville, and was employed on business for the house. About to clock p. m., when about half way, Judge Dye being in a carriage, Mr. Barnhart, becoming impatient at the slow gait of the judge, started off on foot, and went to a house and shot the distance, which is the last that has been seen or heard of him. He was armed with only a revolver. He was undoubtedly waylaid and murdered. The house by whom he was employed had used every exertion and expended money freely in the search for him, but he has been found yet.

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